GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:529
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009
DISPARITY BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL SCHEMES
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to remove the disparities between the urban and rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the study conducted by the Government shows that the rural people do not get the benefits of the crores of rupees allocated under various Central rural development schemes; and

(d) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to improve the situation ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI PRADEEP JAIN `ADITYA`)

(a)&(b): The Ministry of Rural Development implements several schemes for rural development and poverty alleviation, through the State Governments and Union Territories Administrations. These include National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) for poverty alleviation and employment generation in rural area of the country. The other major schemes of the Ministry are Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC). These schemes aim at providing basic amenities and area development. All these programmes have the objective of rural development and directly/indirectly removing disparities between urban and rural areas.

(c): No Study conducted by the Ministry of Rural Development shows that the benefits of the rural development schemes do not reach the rural people.

(d): In order to achieve the programme objectives, the Ministry of Rural Development has adopted a comprehensive system of monitoring of the programmes, through Monthly Progress Reports, On-line reporting, Management Information System, Area Officers Schemes, Utilisation Certificates/Audit Reports, review by Union Ministers,Performance Review Committee (PRC) meetings, National Level Monitors (NLMs) and Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (V&MCs) at State and District Level, with involvement of people`s representatives.

The Ministry has adopted five pronged strategy comprising
(i) creation of awareness about the schemes,
(ii) people`s participation,
(iii) transparency,
(iv) accountability and
(v) vigilance and monitoring of rural development programmes in order to effectively implement the programmes.